



U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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SUMMARY OF SUBJECT MATTER

TO: Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

FROM: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Majority Staff

SUBJECT: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure markup of General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; H.R. 3913, to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met; H.R. 4140, to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building"; H. Res. 832, honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award; H. Res. 845, recognizing the 60th anniversary of Everglades National Park; and H. Res. 866, honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records.

PURPOSE OF MARKUP

On Wednesday, January 16, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., in room 2167 Rayburn House Office Building, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is scheduled to mark up General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; H.R. 3913, to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met; H.R. 4140, to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building"; H. Res. 832, honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award; H. Res. 845, recognizing the 60th anniversary of Everglades National Park; and H. Res. 866, honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the

United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND LEASING PROGRAM RESOLUTIONS

Background

The General Services Administration ("GSA") owns 1,532 Federal buildings totaling 181 million square feet of space, which provides office space for 470,000 Federal workers. GSA leases 172 million square feet of space in 7,100 leased properties, which provides office space for an additional 590,000 Federal workers. GSA's real property activities are funded primarily through the Federal Building Fund ("FBF"). The FBF is an intra-governmental fund in which agencies pay rent to GSA for the space that they occupy. Any excess funds generated by the rental system are used for building repairs and new construction. In 1975, the FBF replaced appropriations to GSA as the primary means of financing the operations and capital costs associated with the Federal space owned or managed by GSA.

Congress exercises control over the FBF through the annual appropriations process by setting limits on how much of the fund can be expended for various activities. Section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, requires the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Environment and Public Works of the Senate to pass resolutions authorizing the construction, repair, alteration, or leasing of space prior to an appropriation of funds. Title 40 also requires the Administrator of General Services to submit to the Committees a prospectus requesting authority for any project in excess of \$2.54 million.¹ The prospectus must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget, and must detail the particular project, along with the cost, benefits, and plan for Federal occupancy.

The Committee will consider 17 resolutions to authorize appropriations for the General Services Administration's ("GSA") FY 2008 Capital Investment and Leasing Program. Of these resolutions, 15 resolutions authorize appropriations for leases in California, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Missouri, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia. The annual rent payments from these leases total \$178.4 million and lease terms vary from three years to 20 years. Through these leases, GSA will house a variety of federal agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

In addition, two resolutions authorize appropriations for alterations in space currently leased by GSA. The combined value of the alteration resolutions is \$5.1 million. The resolutions authorize alterations for space occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in San Diego, California, and the Bureau of Public Debt in Mineral Wells, West Virginia.

¹ General Services Administration Prospectus Thresholds for Owned and Leased Federal Facilities, Stephanie Smith, Congressional Research Service, January 23, 2007, RS22287.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

Each fiscal year, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure considers GSA Capital Investment and Leasing Program resolutions.

On May 10, 2007, the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing on GSA's Fiscal Year 2008 Capital Investment and Leasing Program.

Amendments

No amendments are expected at this time.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Resolutions
for GSA's Capital Investment and Leasing Program
(January 16, 2008)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Prospectus Number</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Authorization Request (Annual Cost)</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Leases				
San Jose, CA	PCA-01-SJ08	Internal Revenue Service	\$4,270,000	No request
Emeryville, CA	PCA-01-EM08	Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service	\$2,879,590	No request
Washington, DC	PDC-01-WA08	Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia Pre-Trial Services Agency	\$7,111,100	No request
Washington, DC	PDC-02-WA08	Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Pre-Trial Services Agency	\$3,717,935	No request
Washington, DC	PDC-07-WA08	Department of the Interior	\$4,438,445	No request
St. Louis, MO	PMO-01-SL08	National Archives and Records Administration	\$11,545,137	No request
Northern, VA	PVA-01-WA08	Department of Defense, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency	\$14,506,840	No request
Northern, VA	PVA-02-WA08	Department of Defense	\$4,665,220	No request
San Francisco, CA	PCA-02-SF08	Environmental Protection Agency	\$13,756,750	No request
San Francisco, CA	PCA-03-SF08	Federal Bureau of Investigation	\$13,142,999	No request
Miami, FL	PFL-02-MI07	Drug Enforcement Administration	\$3,881,527	No request
Atlanta, GA	PGA-01-AT08	Nuclear Regulatory Commission	\$3,959,592	No request
Burlington, MA	PMA-01-BU08	Federal Aviation Administration	\$3,956,000	No request
Frederick County, VA and Berkley County, WV	PVA-01-FR08	Federal Bureau of Investigation	\$27,565,000	No request
Kansas City, MO	PMO-02-KC08	Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration	\$58,995,000	No request
Subtotal			\$178,391,135	
Alterations in Lease Space				
San, Diego, CA	PCA-01-SD08	Federal Bureau of Investigation	\$3,236,000	No request
Mineral Wells, WV	PWV-0240-MI08	Bureau of the Public Debt	\$1,855,000	No request
Subtotal			\$5,091,000	
TOTAL			\$183,482,135	

**H.R. 3913, TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEASE OR
SUBLEASE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN SUCH ACT TO AN ENTITY OTHER THAN A
FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IF CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE
MET**

Background

The Vienna Convention of 1962 on Diplomatic and Consular Relations requires that (1) the sending State locate its Chancery in the receiving State Capital City; (2) the receiving State assist the sending State in locating suitable and affordable space for its Chancery; and (3) the receiving State provide adequate protection for such facilities. To fulfill this obligation and provide land for new embassies and consulates, the U.S. State Department acquired land in the District of Columbia pursuant to the International Center Act ("ICA") (P.L. 90-553). This 47-acre parcel of land, known as the International Center, is located on Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street, N.W. in Washington D.C. and offers leased space for foreign government and international organizations.

Intelsat, which is a tenant of the International Center, was an international commercial cooperative of 142 countries created in the 1960s that provided global telecommunications including television, telephone, and data transmission to every continent. In 1982, consistent with provisions of the ICA, the State Department entered into a long-term lease with Intelsat for the land on which Intelsat built its headquarters. In 2000, Congress enacted the Open-market Reorganization for the Betterment of International Telecommunications Act ("ORBIT Act") (P.L. 106-180), which privatized Intelsat. With enactment of the ORBIT Act, Intelsat's lease no longer satisfied the technical requirements of the ICA.

H.R. 3913, a bill to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met.

H.R. 3913 amends the International Center Act (P.L. 90-553) to authorize the lease or sublease of property located at the International Center in Washington, D.C. to an entity other than an international organization or a foreign government if certain conditions are met.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

On October 22, 2007, Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen introduced H.R. 3913, a bill to amend the International Center Act to authorize the lease or sublease of certain property described in such Act to an entity other than a foreign government or international organization if certain conditions are met.

The bill has not been introduced in a previous Congress.

Amendments

No amendments are expected at this time.

**H.R. 4140, TO DESIGNATE THE PORT ANGELES FEDERAL BUILDING IN PORT ANGELES,
WASHINGTON, AS THE "RICHARD B. ANDERSON FEDERAL BUILDING"**

Background

H.R. 4140 designates the Port Angeles Federal Building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building".

Private First Class ("PFC") Richard B. Anderson was born on June 26, 1921, in Tacoma, Washington. Anderson grew up in Port Angeles, Washington, and attended Sequim High School. Upon graduation, Anderson moved to Richmond, California, where he worked in the Richmond Shipyards.

On July 6, 1942, Anderson joined the United States Marine Corps. He received his basic and infantry training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, and was promoted to the rank of Private First Class on April 12, 1943. Following his promotion, PFC Anderson was assigned to the East Company, 2nd Battalion, of the 23rd Marines. PFC Anderson's unit was deployed to the Marshall Islands in January 1944. On February 1, 1944, his company was part of an invasion force fighting to take control of Rio Island from the Japanese. During the assault, Anderson and three other Marines jumped into a shell crater to escape enemy fire. As Anderson prepared to throw a grenade from inside the crater, the grenade slipped from his hands and began to roll toward the other three marines in the crater. In an act of selfless heroism, Anderson lunged on top of the live grenade and absorbed the full impact of the blast, saving the lives of his fellow soldiers. Anderson was evacuated to the U.S.S. Callaway but died from his wounds shortly thereafter.

PFC Anderson was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Medal of Honor, which is the nation's highest military decoration, for his acts of bravery and service to his country. On October 26, 1945, in honor of PFC Anderson, the United States Navy commissioned a DD-786 destroyer battleship as the "U.S.S. Richard B. Anderson". The ship began active service in January 1947, and was used in combat for the Vietnam and Korean Wars. The ship remained in active service until December 20, 1975.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

On November 9, 2007, Representative Norman D. Dicks introduced H.R. 4140, to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, as the "Richard B. Anderson Federal Building".

This bill has not been introduced in a previous Congress.

Amendments

No amendments are expected at this time.

**H. RES. 832, HONORING THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON ITS SELECTION AS A
RECIPIENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S 2007 CLEAN WATER STATE
REVOLVING FUND PERFORMANCE AND INNOVATION AWARD**

Background

H. Res. 832 honors the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award.

The Performance and Innovation in the State Revolving Fund Creating Environmental Success ("PISCES") Awards were created in 2005 to recognize the extraordinary successes of the States' Clean Water Revolving Fund ("CWSRF") programs. Projects financed under the CWSRF programs support the Clean Water Act by protecting environmental health and water quality. The PISCES Awards highlight successfully designed projects that further the goal of clean and safe water with exceptional planning, management, and financing.

The PISCES Award was given to one State in each of the ten EPA regions. The following criteria were required for nomination by regional offices: pace level greater than 80 percent; audit with no serious programmatic or financial problems; and outstanding performance in at least two other fields. The fields consisted of better management practices, full-cost pricing, efficient water use, watershed approach, creative use of technologies, leveraging practices, innovative partnerships, innovating lending practices, and effective outreach.

In Texas, the Northwest Water Reuse Initiative consisted of a five-phase, \$10.7 million project in El Paso County to deliver treated wastewater for reuse to irrigators, industries, and homeowners from El Paso's Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. Texas also financed a wastewater reclamation initiative to deliver reclaimed water from the City of Austin's Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to two city-owned properties. The project included a treated effluent pumping station, an underground storage tank, and 54,000 feet of transmission main. It was the first step in the city's development of a transmission and distribution system capable of serving large-volume customers with reclaimed water.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

On November 15, 2007, Subcommittee Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson introduced H. Res. 832.

This resolution has not been introduced in a previous Congress.

Amendments

No amendments are expected at this time.

H. RES. 845, RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

Background

H. Res. 845 recognizes the 60th anniversary of Everglades National Park, which occurred on December 6, 2007, and resolves that the House of Representatives dedicate itself to the success of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan ("Comprehensive Plan" or "CERP").

Everglades National Park is the largest remaining subtropical wilderness in the continental United States. It is located less than an hour's drive from the City of Miami. The Park was originally dedicated on December 6, 1947, by President Harry S. Truman, and has been designated as an International Biosphere Reserve, a World Heritage Site, and a Wetland of International Importance. In addition, the Park provides an important ecosystem for endangered plants and wildlife. It is a tourist destination and a prime location for business and agriculture.

The primary and overarching purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to restore the south Florida ecosystem, which includes the Everglades. This purpose has guided all aspects of the Comprehensive Plan's development and proposed implementation. It is a framework and guide to restore, protect, and preserve the water resources of the great Everglades ecosystem. The CERP has been described as the world's largest ecosystem restoration effort, and includes restoring natural flows of water, water quality, and more natural hydro-periods within the remaining natural areas. The CERP is intended to result in a sustainable south Florida by restoring the ecosystem, ensuring clean and reliable water supplies, and providing flood protection.

The Comprehensive Plan got its start nearly 50 years after the Everglades was forever changed with levees and drainage canals that made way for growth. In 1948, Congress directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to undertake a project which essentially drained much of the marsh to prevent flooding, irrigate farm lands, and provide drinking water to facilitate new development. Since then, the altered water flow has eaten away half of the Everglades and water quality has been compromised. Virtually all of the features of the Plan will benefit the environment. Together, these features improve the quality, quantity, timing, and distribution of water flows to the ecosystem. The storage features of the Plan serve multiple objectives because of the interconnection between water in natural, agricultural, and urban areas.

The CERP will directly benefit the Everglades National Park in several ways. Most importantly, the Plan greatly improved the quality, quantity, timing, and distribution of flows into the Park. In addition, more than 240 miles of canals and levees within the Everglades will be removed to reestablish the natural sheetflow of water through the Park. That change will support the return of the large nesting rookeries of wading birds to the Park and the recovery of several endangered bird species such as the wood stork, the snail kite, and the Cape Sable seaside sparrow.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

On December 5, 2007, Representative Alcee L. Hastings introduced H. Res. 845.

This resolution has not been introduced in a previous Congress.

Amendments

An amendment will be offered to the resolution. The amendment makes technical corrections to the resolution.

**H. RES. 866, HONORING THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WHOSE TIRELESS WORK, DEDICATION, AND COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING THE UNITED
STATES HAVE LED TO THE COAST GUARD SEIZING OVER 350,000 POUNDS OF COCAINE AT SEA
DURING 2007, FAR SURPASSING ALL OF OUR PREVIOUS RECORDS**

Background

H. Res. 866 recognizes the brave men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard for their tireless work and dedication which has led to them seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine, at sea in 2007, surpassing all previous records.

The United States Coast Guard ("USCG") is the smallest of the seven uniformed services of the United States, with a mission to protect the public, the environment, and the United States economic and security interests in international waters and America's coasts, ports, and inland waterways.

The Coast Guard has a 217-year legacy of border protection and maritime law enforcement. In addition to the Coast Guard's other safety and security duties, the service also conducts the dangerous duty of drug interdiction.

In calendar year 2007, the Coast Guard seized more than 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea. The street value of this seizure was more than \$4.7 billion. This amount is nearly one-half of the Coast Guard's annual budget.

H. Res. 866 acknowledges that the Coast Guard's at-sea drug interdictions are reducing the supply of cocaine in more than 35 major U.S. cities, making a positive difference in the lives of American citizens. The resolution also recognizes that the Coast Guard works with a robust interagency team and international partners that has contributed to them seizing more than 2,000,000 pounds of cocaine in the past 10 years.

H. Res. 866 commends the men and women of the Coast Guard, who are away from their families while they tirelessly work to execute the service's mission. The resolution acknowledges that this quiet dedication and selfless service in protection the Nation and the American people is done by Coast Guard men and women without want of public recognition.

Prior Legislative and Oversight Activities

On December 11, 2007, Representative Howard Coble introduced H. Res. 866.

Amendments

No amendments are expected at this time.